FARM AND HOME.

Agricultural Notes.

HILLING POTATOES. - A cerrespondent of the Rural New Yorker tried an experiment last season with raising potatoes by hilling and by leaving the surface flat. The summer was wet, giving the hilling the advantage, if any. The result was about the same quantity for each, but the potatoes from the part not hilled were larger, fewer in number, and finer in quality. He thinks much labor, worse than useless, is expended in hilling potatoes.

BARN ROOFS, -The Mirror and Farmer says: As you begin putting in your new hav, see to your barn roofs. On some of them the shingles are worn out, and only an entire new set will meet the emergency. On others there is a vacan place here and there, from which the wind has torn a shingle or two; these may be patched. Whatever the condition of your finances or grass crop, you cannot afford to put off any needed repairs upon your roofs. Better let your grass rot in the field than to put it into your barn to be spoiled by the rain that will find its way through a leaky roof. Though all other buildings go to the dogs, keep your barn roofs water-proof.

Two Crops a Year,-Such a thing as two crops of grain in one year is by no means rare in California. Apple trees have been known to yield two crops and pear trees three crops; but such a phenomenon as that related in the subjoined item from an Alameda paper will be likely to create surprise: A sixty-acre field on the ranche of Juan Peralta, near San Leandoe, was farmed to barley last year, and a good heavy crop of the grain harvested from it. This year it was allowed to volunteer, and it has produced a heavy growth of clear oats, which now stand about three feet high, and is in a very thrifty condition.

WASTE LANDS,-The reclamation of land and utilizing it, thus making waste places productive, is one of the economical modes a farmer has of reducing the proportion of his taxes to production. Thousands of acres of most productive lands lie idle, and taxes are paid on them in almost every State, the net product resulting from the reclamation of which would pay the entire taxes of the farmer. Often the best lands on the farm are thus wasted-worse than wasted-for the want of a little vim and enterprise on the part of the owner. It should be a rule with all farmers not to own an acre of ground that does not pay them a profit (either by production or appreciation in value) on its assessed valuation. No business man can afford to keep such land if he has active and profitable use for his capital.

CUT-WORMS .- The New York Times says: We have succeeded in greatly reducing the numbers of this pest by enticing a flock of poultry into the field while it was being plowed. The fowls followed the plow closely, picking up every cut-worm exposed and searching every furrow for more. There is no other way of ridding the fields of these vermin but by encouraging their natural | FLOUR-Choice birds, which devour the grubs, and skunks and moles, which devour both the grubs and the beetles, of which they are the larvæ. While these creatures are killed or driven off, we shall suffer from the depredations of the insects which are their natural prey. To prevent the destruction of the young corn by the cut-worms, to some extent, the seed should be rolled in common pine tar and then dried in plaster before

Oars.-The time for sowing oats is at hand, and our experience and observations teach us that the earlier this can be done the better, and we advise the farmers to have everything in readiness, good, clean seed prepared, plows and harrows sharpened, and, at the very first time the ground is in order to work, break the ground and sow the oats. We have tried several ways of putting in oats, such as first sowing the oats on the ground and covering with a breaking plow, turning a shallow furrow, and afterward harrowing to level the ground, also plowing them in with double shovels; but we are inclined to think we get best results from breaking the ground; and as fast as we get land broken, sowing the oats on the fresh turned soil, and brushing in with a heavy brush cut from the woods, or, where this could not be had, use the harrow.

Useful Recipes.

GOLDEN SALVE. - Two quarts raw linseed oil, three pounds good rosin, three pounds of beeswax. Melt thoroughly together and turn into tin boxes. This is the best salve known for burns, scalds, flesh wounds, old sores, piles, etc. To make small quantities the same proportion as above required.

milk, one cake chocolate (one-quarter pound); one cup and a half sugar (white). Try this on a buttered plate, as it will not crisp in water, and when done pour on buttered pans and mark off in squares with a knife as it cools, and then it will easily break when cold. They are very excellent,

REMEDY FOR CROUP.-This remedy is simply alum: Take a knife or grater and shave or grate off in small particles about a tablespoonful of alum, mix it with about twice the quantity of sugar or honey or make it palatable, and administer as quickly as possible. The doses should be separated at intervals of fifteen minutes, until the phlegm is cut and cast off. This will give almost immediate relief. The patient should also bathe his feet in hot water and apply cloths wet in cold water to the throat and chest, changing as often as they get warm.

VINEGAR CANDY.-One cup white sugar; one-half cup vinegar; boil till it crisps in cold water. This makes an excellent candy, and something beneficial also, as it is good for colds. If the vinegar be very strong, take a little less of it, and some water, but for us the strength of the vinegar never hurts. When done pour out on buttered plates, and either mark off in squares an inch or two wide as it cools, or else, when cool enough to handle, draw it until it is nice and white; then cut it into

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